

Alexandria Gazette

VOL. LXXVIII.

ALEXANDRIA, VA., SATURDAY, DEC. 29, 1877.

NO. 308.

Alexandria Gazette

SATURDAY EVENING, DEC. 29.

Virginia as a Field for Laborers.

Eliza Burritt, the learned blacksmith, has written a letter to the New York Tribune, from which the annexed extract is taken:

"There is no State in the Union that so much needs industrial population as Virginia. There is none so near this surplus unemployed labor that has such great sections of wild or wooded land which should be brought into cultivation. There is none with such a variety of climates, soils, and natural resources for every kind of occupation. A thousand laborers, once on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, could walk to a section fitted for such a settlement in a single day."

"Here, then, is a noble field of patriotic and economic enterprise for Virginians of means and elevated motives, who believe all this of their native State. They can lose nothing by trying one experiment in the movement. The process is cheap, expeditious and simple. Let a dozen men who would give a fair trial form a home, land and labor company, and purchase, if practicable, 2,000 acres of wooded land, and divide it into thirty acre allotments. Then let them advertise in the sections so thronged with unemployed labor for fifty or one hundred wood cutters, at fair wages, to clear six acres of each of these allotments. Let them include two or three carpenters and joiners to direct and assist at the construction of a comfortable log house for each homestead, and a central building of suitable size for a chapel and schoolhouse. Give these hired laborers who have thus prepared the allotments for occupation the first chance and right to occupy and own them, and partly or wholly to provision them for six months with their own wages. Attach a fair value to each homestead thus made ready for its occupants, and to all the tools and provisions advanced to them, and charge a fair and paying rentage and interest upon the amount. Let it be a rigidly business transaction, paying as fair rate of profit on the capital as any of Alderman Waterlow's tenement houses in London. Appoint a resident or visiting agent to supervise the colony, collect rentage, advise and assist in settling any differences, and to act in any requisite way for the corporation."

How easy and cheap it would be to try an experiment of this small extent. If it succeeded others on a larger scale would follow. Virginia could take in one hundred thousand of these unemployed laborers and provide such a homestead for every one of them, and they would be a wealth to her."

WEBSTER'S COURTSHIP.—The following has been related as the manner in which Mr. Webster became engaged to his loving and devoted wife. He saw her first when he was a young lawyer at Portsmouth, and she was Miss Grace Fletcher. At one of his visits he had, probably with a view of utility and enjoyment, been holding skeins of silk thread for her, when suddenly he stopped, saying:—

"Grace, we have been engaged in untying knots; let us see if we can tie a knot, which will not untie for a lifetime."

He then took a piece of tape, and after beginning a knot of a peculiar kind, gave it to her to complete. This was the ceremony and ratification of their engagement. And in the little box marked by him with the words "Precious Documents," containing the letters of his early courtship, this unique memorial was found—the knot never untied.

To the memory of the lady who won his earliest affection, who shared the trials and the triumphs of his early manhood, Mr. Webster retained to the end of his life an unflinching devotion. He could never speak of his first wife without visible emotion. Grace Fletcher Webster was a person of very delicate organization, both physically and intellectually; yet she was energetic, and when occasion required she exhibited a rare fortitude. To her husband's welfare she was entirely devoted; she presided over his household with peculiar grace and dignity, and really seemed to live for him. When he was at home she sought his comfort and pleasure; when he was absent her thoughts, as her beautiful letters testify, were of him day and night. She wrote to him almost daily.

DIRTY EATING HOUSES IN LONDON.—Edmund Yates writes:—"Will somebody tell me why the fish restaurants of London are the filthiest eating places in the world? I shuddered at the sight of an oyster shop, and saw the dirty water in which the bivalves are kept, and in which they are dipped again to clean them after they are opened. I do not know if there is anybody left in the world who likes supper; but I know I do for a change. Supper suggests fish, and it is impossible to have a good fish supper except in one's own house. It is impossible even at a club, unless ordered before hand. Woe to the wretch who is weak enough to go into the taverns devoted to shell fish! Dirt and discomfort everywhere, and the oppression of the most poisonous gas that in two minutes produces a furious headache. You have to sit on a narrow ledge of wood, called a bench; before you a narrow board, called a table. And, oh, the dirty table cloth, the sticky knives, the disabled cruet, the lumps of putty which they call bread, the salad which has been dug out of the dust hole, and the lobster which has been cut open with a fishy knife used for skinning soles."

THE COLORED RACE.—In a letter to the Cincinnati Commercial H. V. Redfield refers to the decrease of the colored race in the South. He says:

"It is a doomed race in America, but the doom is a long way off. Of one thing you may be sure, the increase under the slave system, amounting to 25 per cent. every ten years, will never be seen again. The census of 1880 will learn us a number of things as to this problem, the main one, in my judgment, being that the race is not increasing. It will likely hold its own, as compared with the last census, but the increase will be very small, if any. We have a striking evidence of what to expect even in the census of 1870, embracing some four years of slavery and six of freedom. From 1850 to 1860 the increase among the blacks was 25 per cent. From 1860 to 1870 it was only 10 per cent., less than one-half! The next census will set out the matter so that there can be no doubt whether the race is to increase, decrease or barely hold its own."

CLARK'S AMMONIATED BONE SUPER PHOSPHATE TURNER'S EXCELSIOR and TURNER'S AMMONIATED BONE SUPER PHOSPHATE.

AT LOWEST PRICE BY R. M. LAWSON & JAMESON

250 LBS FRESH ROLL BUTTER just received by DAY & HARMON.

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FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

AN ACCEPTABLE CHRISTMAS GIFT for every body, would be a bottle of JANNEY'S EXQUISITE ORANGE BLOSSOM COLOGNE. Put up in bottles of three sizes at 25 and 50 cents, and \$1.00 respectively. JANNEY & CO., No. 145 King and dec 21 N. W. cor. King and Royal sts.

CONFECTIONERY, FRUITS, TOYS, &c.

M. BOSSART, No. 21 south Fairfax street, Has on hand a full supply of CHRISTMAS GOODS of all kinds, such as Candies, French and Plain, Nuts of all kinds, Raisins, Havana Organs, Lemons, Malaga Grapes, California Pears, Albemarle Pippins, &c. Also CAKES, Plain and Fancy, which he is constantly making, and may be had fresh every day.

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.—Perhaps the best and most lasting present that can be made to a mother, wife or sister is a first class SEWING MACHINE. This we have in the "DOMESTIC" SEWING MACHINE. We also have a few SECOND HAND MACHINES, in good order; also Toilet Bottles, Soaps, Hair Brushes, Chamois Skins, Tooth Powders, &c., all at lowest possible prices. dec 19 E. S. LEADBEATER & BRO.

AN ACROSTICAL ADVERTISEMENT.

By BRENGLE. CONCERNING CHRISTMAS CONFECTIONERY.

Christmas comes but once a year; Habit makes a pleasant time; Run riot every kind of cheer, Into every land and clime. Silvan scenes delight no more, Turning cold the northwinds' blow. May bird lives on milder shore, And all the folks to BRENGLE'S go. SANTA CLAUS waits there, you know.

Read the second letter of the first line, the third letter of the second line, the fourth letter of the third line, and so on, and you will find the place where all good children go, and where Kris Kringle awaits them with the largest stock of CAKES ever made in this market. Also French and Domestic Candies, Cakes, Pies, Fruits, Nuts, Confectionery, Oysters, Ice Cream, Water Ices and all the delicacies of the season. 129 King street. Christmas, 1877. dec 18-19

LOW PRICES

TO SUIT HARD TIMES

FOR HOLIDAY GOODS AT

RAMSAY'S.

RAISINS OF ALL KINDS, CITRON, CURRANTS, FIGS, NUTS OF ALL KINDS, PRUNES, ENGLISH PLUM PUDDING, MINCE MEAT, FLORIDA ORANGES, MALAGA GRAPES, LEMONS, PRESERV. CITRON, CURRANT JELLY, QUINCE JELLY, APPLE AND PEACH BUTTER, OLIVES, PRESERVED and CONSERVED GINGER, PINEAPPLE CHEESE, EDAM AND SAPAGO do., CHINESE PRESERVES in glass, FINE FRENCH PRESERVES, (in handsome bottles—just the thing for presents.) ENGLISH PICKLES, SARDINES, BOSTON BAKED BEANS, LOBSTERS, CANNED GOODS CHEAP, NEW CROP NEW ORLEANS MOLASSES, GOOD BAKING MOLASSES CHEAP, FINE CIGARS, HANDSOME JARS OF PICKLES, TEAS, COFFEES and SUGARS, AT VERY LOW PRICES. dec 12-14 J. G. GEORGE R. HILL & CO., STEAK CRACKER & CAKE BAKERS, 35 NORTH LEE STREET, ALEXANDRIA, VA.

PREPARE YOURSELVES, FOR THE HOLIDAYS ARE COMING

Now is your time, for

HENRY STRAUSS

is selling at his

BOOT AND SHOE EMPORIUM, 66 KING STREET

Boots and Shoes at prices that will dazzle your eyes.

BOOTS FROM \$1.50 UP TO \$6.

A Baltimore Home Made Boot \$3.87.

Ladies' Shoes from 75c up to \$2.60.

Ladies' Foxed Button \$1.62. This Boot cannot be equalled in this city.

Misses' and Children's Shoes at the lowest prices

For a Christmas present to your wife, husband, mother, father, sister, brother, or any one, call on HENRY STRAUSS, 66 King street, and get a pair of his

BEST HOLIDAY SHOES.

P. S.—Sole agent for the WALKER SADDLE SEAM BOOT. This boot will be guaranteed for its fit and wear. Call and examine them. dec 4

FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

MERRY CHRISTMAS! HAPPY NEW YEAR! First in the field to offer to my patrons

HOLIDAY GOODS! For a holiday present nothing is more useful than a nice Overcoat or a good Suit of Clothes.

OVERCOATS FROM \$3 TO \$25 (Chinchilla, Beaver and Cloth, of all styles and colors.) SUITS TO FIT A THREE YEAR OLD CHILD TO A MAN WEIGHING 300 POUNDS. CALL AND SEE THEM. My stock of GENTS' FURNISHING GOODS: TRUNKS VALISES; HATS, CAPS, &c., is complete.

MY SIX DOLLAR SUIT Cannot be excelled this side of Philadelphia. TO MY FRIENDS AND PATRONS—All I ask is a visit to my Clothing Emporium, and if I do not satisfy you in what I have said I ask you not to buy. I hope my former career of business transaction will be sufficient for the future.

HENRY STRAUSS, NO. 86 KING STREET Opposite Market alley.

FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

BEAUTIFUL GOODS FOR THE HOLIDAYS AT FRENCH'S, NO. 95 KING STREET.

I am now opening one of the handsomest stocks of Christmas and New Year's goods ever offered in this market. Prominent are Bibles and Prayer Books in rich binding. Novelties in Russia leather. The finest Russia Leather Portfolios, Letter Cases and Writing Cases. Papier Maché Desks, very handsome. Beautiful vases in gilt and cut glass. Hand painted Glass vases, very beautiful. Russia leather and Cut Glass Handkerchiefs and Glove Boxes. Russia Leather Satchels. Ladies' Pocket Companions. Japanese Cabinets, Boxes and Trays. Writing Desks. Fine Gold Pens and Pencils in gold and pearl cases, put up expressly for holiday presents. Fine Bronze Glass Inkstands. Scotchwood goods. Smokers' sets. Sugar Cases, great variety. Work Boxes in Russia and Vienna Leather, beautifully made and furnished. Handsome Chromes. Statuary. Also the celebrated Pictures of Prang & Co. These are the finest in this country. Christmas and New Year cards. For the little folks I have the largest and best assortment of juvenile books in the State. The stock embraces the best American, English and German authors. As for names of all kinds, Alphabet, building and other blocks, Banks Steam Engines, and a thousand and one other things to instruct and amuse boys and girls, time and space forbid further enumeration.

Any information respecting this stock will be cheerfully furnished by mail to those living at a distance. To the residents and shopkeepers in Alexandria it will afford no pleasure to show these goods at 95 King street. dec 18-19 GEO. E. FRENCH.

HEADQUARTERS FOR HOLIDAY GOODS.

Let all remember that MRS. S. K. SNIDER Had the largest and most select stock of CHRISTMAS GOODS

in the city last year, and her stock this year is a great improvement over last. She also has a large assortment of beautiful and cheap Laces, and every variety of Housewarming Goods. All are invited to call at No. 6 south Fairfax street, Alexandria, Va., and examine for themselves. dec 12

BELMONT PEACHES AND PURE WINE. We are special agents for Mr. R. LLOYD'S EXTRA BELMONT PEACHES, by the case or at retail, in 2 and 3 lb. cans. Also for his CONCORD and CATAWBA WINE of 1870 and 1871, in bottles or by the gallon. dec 13 JANNEY & CO., 145 King st.

CHRISTMAS GOODS We have just received a large assortment of NEW AND USEFUL ARTICLES, SUITABLE FOR CHRISTMAS PRESENTS

CONSISTING OF HOUSEHOLD GOODS, PLATED, WOODEN AND WILLOW WARES, WRITING DESKS, WORK BOXES AND BASKETS, TOYS, &c., &c., to which we invite the attention of purchasers and an examination of our stock before purchasing elsewhere.

McLEAN & UHLER, 101 KING STREET. dec 11-12

TOYS! TOYS! LARGEST ASSORTMENT IN THE CITY! Also a full line of CONFECTIONERY.

TH. GERHARD, 10 North Royal street. nov 30-1

FANCY GOODS FOR THE HOLIDAYS.—English, French, German and American Perfumeries, Lubin's, Piver's and Palmer's Extracts, Genuine Farina Cologne, Orange Blossom Cologne, Violet Cologne and Sachet Powders of various odors; also Cologne and Perfumery Bottles of various styles, including the "Rustic Bottle," something new and very attractive. JANNEY & CO., 79 & 145 King street. dec 14

CHRISTMAS! CHRISTMAS! FOR CHRISTMAS PRESENTS call at C. C. BERRY'S, where you will find a beautiful line of goods for ladies, gents and children. Call and examine, as they are very cheap, before buying elsewhere. dec 13

XMAS! XMAS! Tuesday, Dec. 11, 1877. CLOAKS! CLOAKS! We invite purchasers to call and see a great many new goods just received from New York per express. D. F. BRASHEAR, H. B. Hoopes, No. 109 King street, Alexandria, Va. dec 11

HOLIDAY GOODS. Collars and Cuffs, Handkerchiefs, Kid Gloves, Scarfs and Butting in handsome boxes. Wagons, Carriages, Sleighs, Rooking-Horses, Tin animals, Drums and a large assortment of other goods. C. M. ADAMS, 62 King street. dec 10

HOLIDAY GOODS.—Fancy Lunch Baskets, suitable for school children, Fruit Baskets, Cocoa Mats, various styles, Continental do., very pretty, woolen bordered and lettered do.; Infant and Toy Pails—all new and cheap. dec 10 GEO. McBURNIEY & CO.

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HOLIDAY GOODS JUST RECEIVED.—London Layer, Plain do., Loose Muscatel, Valencia, Mat and Sultan's. Also Malaga Grapes and a general assortment of fresh Nuts, all of which are offered very low. dec 5 GEO. McBURNIEY & SON, 166 and 170 King street.

THE BEST PREPARATION FOR THE HOLIDAYS.—ATMORE'S GENUINE ENGLISH PLUM PUDDING. For sale by dec 5 GEO. McBURNIEY & SON.

HOLIDAY PRESENTS.—A great variety of FANCY CHINA, just received and for sale low. We advise our friends and the public to call and carefully examine the stock. nov 30 E. J. MILLER & CO., 65 King st.

PIANOS AND ORGANS. From the most celebrated factories, for sale and rent. Pianos and Organs sold on the installment plan on the most reasonable terms. Tuning and repairing promptly attended to by experienced men at C. REICHENBACH'S, PIANO WAREHOUSE, 423 Eleventh st., a few doors above Penna. ave. Washington, D. C. Sole Agency for District of Columbia and Alexandria, Va., of the celebrated KNABE & CO'S and McCAMMON'S favorite PIANOS. dec 14

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